(a) whether it is a fact that Metro Rail in Delhi is considered to be the safest and well managed and maintained transportation system;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that linkages from metro stations are not properly available and the private bus operators in Delhi are not plying enough buses there; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to request the Delhi Adminsitration to improve the linkages from metro stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The Shahdara-Trinagar section of Line 1 of the Delhi Mass Rapid Transit System, i.e. Metro Rail is in operation at present and has been certified by the Commissioner of Railway Safety as meeting the prescribed standards of safety.

(b) and (c) Enough feeder bus services are available to connect all Delhi Metro Rail stations from Shahdara to Trinagar. Further action under the applicable statutory provisions has also been initiated by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

Encroachment in Durga Mandir Complex

1376. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to refer to in reply to Unstarred question 3628 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th April, 2002 and state:

(a) whether MCD has taken permission to remove the encroachment in the complex of Durga Mandir at 'F' Block, Raghubir Nagar;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, by when the encroachment would be removed;

(c) whether Government are aware that recently Executive Committee of the said Durga Mandir has started constructions on the encroached land; and

(d) if so, the steps contemplated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Slum & JJ Department of Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that it has taken up the matter with Government of NCT of Delhi.

Further action depends on the decision of the Government.

(c) and (d) Slum & JJ Department of MCD has reported that as per the site report dated 5.12.2003 no construction was being carried out.

Notification of the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995

1377. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the recent, Supreme Court order on giving effect to the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995, Government have taken any decision to notify the date of enforcement of the Act with a view to carrying out mandate of the Parliament;

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) The Supreme Court, in its judgement dated 8.10.2003 dismissed Civil Appeals Nos. 3988-89 of 2001 filed by Common Cause for issuing order to the Central Government to notify the Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995. In the said judgement the Supreme Court observed that the Government is entitled to take into consideration various facts while deciding whether the Act should be brought into force or not and no mandamus can be issued to the Central Government to bring the Act into force.

The Delhi Rent Control Act, 1995 could not be enforced after its enactment due to agitation by various groups. It was then decided to bring the Act into force after amending some of its provisions. Consequently,